

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 045500  
ORIGIN NEA-04

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 /005 R

66011

DRAFTED BY: NEA/ARP:FGERLACH

APPROVED BY: NEA/ARP:JWTTWINAM

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O 020117Z MAR 77

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY LONDON IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 045500

FOLLOWING REPEAT SANA 699 ACTION SECSTATE INFO  
AMMAN JIDDA KUWAIT MUSCAT DTD 16 FEB

QTE

C O N F I D E N T I A L SANA 0699

E.O. 11652 GDS

TAGS:PFOR

SUBJ: PDRY AT THE CROSSROADS

1. YAR PRESIDENT AL-HAMDY MET YESTERDAY WITH PDRY  
PRESIDENT SALIM RUBAY'I ALI IN QATABA, SOUTHERN YAR  
BORDER TOWN WHICH WAS SCENE OF SOME OF FIERCEST FIGHTING  
IN 1973 AND 74 BETWEEN NORTH AND SOUTH YEMEN. PURPOSE OF  
MEETING WAS PRESUMABLY TO DISCUSS WORK OF COMMITTEES WHICH  
DEVISING UNITY.

2. THERE WERE REPORTS EARLIER THAT SALIM AND  
AL-HAMDY HAD MET LAST MONTH IN BAYDA, ANOTHER SOUTHERN  
YAR BORDER TOWN WHICH AL-HADMI VISITED TO OPEN PROJECTS.  
WE COULD NOT GET CONFIRMATION OF THIS MEETING AND TEND TO  
BELIEVE THEREFORE THAT THIS IS FIRST MEETING OF TWO MEN  
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PAGE 02 STATE 045500

NOT ON NEUTRAL GROUND, LIKE ARAB SUMMIT CONFERENCES OF  
ALGIERS AND CARIO OR NON-ALIGNED MEETINGS AT COLOMBO.  
BY THIS COUNT, MEETING IS ONLY FOURTH, BUT IF PATTERN  
CONTINUES MEETINGS WILL BECOME MORE FREQUENT AND REGULAR.

3. COMMENT: AL-HAMDY DID NOT MENTION TO ME THAT THIS MEETING  
WAS IN OFFING WHEN I SAW HIM THREE DAYS BEFOREHAND, AND

IT IN SOME WAYS BELIES HIS CAUTIOUS STATEMENT THAT RELATIONS WITH PDY ARE "NEITHER GOOD NOR BAD". CLEARLY THERE IS GOING TO BE CLOSER COOPERATION BETWEEN TWO STATES. AL-THAWRA HEADLINE TWO DAYS AGO ANNOUNCED THAT CONTRACT FOR TAIZ TO RAHIDA (BORDER TOWN WHICH WILL BE MAIN ENTRY FOR GOODS TRANSSHIPPED TO ADEN) HAS BEEN PUT UP FOR TENDER. PERHAPS GREATEST SIGNIFICANCE OF MEETING IN QATABA IS NOT TALK OF ECONOMIC OR OTHER COOPERATION, BUT ACCEPTANCE OF ONE ANOTHER IN AN ARENA WHERE THEY ONCE FOUGHT ONE ANOTHER. THIS WILL DISILLUSION LEFTISTS IN YEMEN WHO WANT MORE RADICAL REGIME IN SANA AND PERHAPS ENCOURAGE MODERATES IN PDY. SCOTES UNQTE VANCE

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** FOREIGN RELATIONS, CHIEFS OF STATE MEETINGS, INTERGOVERNMENTAL COOPERATION, MEETING REPORTS  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
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**Decaption Date:** 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 22 May 2009  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1977STATE045500  
**Document Source:** CORE  
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**Original Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
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**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review Media Identifier:**  
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**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**SAS ID:** 2938245  
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**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** PDRY AT THE CROSSROADS  
**TAGS:** PFOR, (ALI, SALIM RUBYA'I), (AL-HAMDI, IBRAHIM)  
**To:** LONDON  
**Type:** TE  
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